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**Descriptions of New Species of Birds of the Families CÆREBIDÆ, TAN-
AGRIDÆ, ICTERIDÆ, and SCOLOPACIDÆ.**

BY GEO. N. LAWRENCE.

Fam. CÆREBIDÆ.

DACNIS ULTRAMARINA.

D. cærebicolor, Lawr. nec. Scl., Ann., N. Y. Lyc. Vol. vii., p. 291.

Male. General color ultramarine blue, lores, chin, throat, middle of back, wings and tail black; the black on the throat dull in color; the wing coverts, quills and central tail feathers margined with ultramarine blue; bill black, the base of the under mandible below flesh color; iris brown; tarsi and toes reddish yellow.

Length $4\frac{5}{8}$ in.; wing $2\frac{5}{8}$; tail $1\frac{7}{8}$; bill $\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi 9-16.

The female is yellowish green, with the front, part of the crown and sides of the head bluish; throat ashy; the under plumage lighter green, the middle of the abdomen yellowish.

Habitat. New Granada, Isthmus of Panama.

In distribution of colors this species closely resembles *cærebicolor* Scl., and *cayana*; it is, however, lighter in color than the first, and darker than the last; it differs from both in the black not extending behind the eye, in the dull color of the black spot on the throat, which in the others is of a deep black and more clearly defined; *cærebicolor* is purple blue, and *cayana* greenish or verditer blue.

Fam. TANAGRIDÆ.

SALTATOR INTERMEDIUS.

S. magnus, Lawr. nec. Gm., Ann., N. Y. Lyc. Vol. vii. p. 297.

Male. Upper plumage yellowish olive green; the front and top of the head intermixed with bluish cinereous; a white stripe from the bill over the eye; sides of the head bluish cinereous; tail of the same color as the upper plumage; quills brownish black, the outer webs same color as the back; chin white; on the throat is a tawny or fulvous spot entirely surrounded by a narrow band of black, which runs down on each side of the throat and assumes a rounding form on the upper part of the breast; breast and abdomen cinereous tinged with pale tawny; under tail coverts bright fulvous; bill black; iris brown; legs reddish brown.

Length 8 in.; wing $4\frac{1}{2}$; tail 4; bill $\frac{3}{4}$; tarsi 1.

The female differs only in the black not extending across the breast below the fulvous spot.

Habitat. New Granada, Isthmus of Panama.

At the time of referring this species to *S. magnus*, I had but a single example, a female, which much resembles that species, and I would not have inclined to separate them, but since then receiving other specimens of both sexes, and finding the fulvous spot on the throat of the male to be encircled with black, as in *S. magnoides*, I have not hesitated to pronounce it a distinct species. It differs from *magnus* in the fulvous spot not only being brighter and deeper in color, but of three times the extent; in having a black band on the breast, and in the color of the under tail coverts being much darker, more rufous. From *magnoides* it differs in the head above being mixed with olive green, in the white on the chin extending to the bill, whereas, in *magnoides* the black lines on the sides of the throat come together on the chin; the fulvous on the throat is not quite so bright, but is of twice the extent of that of *magnoides*, and the black band on the breast of only about one-third the breadth of it in that species; the breast of *magnoides* is of a clear cinereous and the crissum lighter than in the new bird.

In color and markings it seems to be intermediate between *magnus* and *magnoides*, the crissum, however, in my species is darker than in either of the others.

[April,

Fam. *ICTERIDÆ*.*CASSICUS VITELLINUS*.

Cassicus icteronotus, Lawr. nec Vieill., Annals of Lyc. of N. Hist., N. Y., Vol. vii. p. 297.

Male. Deep velvety black, with the lower part of the back, a broad mark on the wing coverts next the back, upper and under tail coverts, basal half of tail feathers and crissum, deep yellow or yolk-of-egg color; the upper middle tail coverts are tipped with black; upper mandible yellowish white, lower pale plumbeous white; iris blue; tarsi and toes black.

Length 12 in.; wing $7\frac{1}{2}$; tail $4\frac{3}{4}$; bill 1 9-16; tarsi $1\frac{3}{8}$.

The female differs only in being smaller, and measures in length $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; wing $5\frac{1}{2}$; tail 4; bill $1\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi 1 1-16.

Habitat.—New Granada, Isthmus of Panama, where it is very abundant; I have also seen it from Nicaragua.

This species, which I mistook for *C. persicus*, Linn., (*icteronotus*, Vieill.), at first sight appears much like it, but differs in being larger, in the yellow being much deeper in color, the upper mandible much stronger, with the culmen more curved, and the base of the upper mandible in front much broader; but the most marked difference is in the extent of the yellow on the tail feathers, on the central feathers reaching two inches from the base, and decreasing a little on the outer ones, giving a rounding form to the mark of this color on the tail; but in *C. persicus*, the yellow, although reaching about the same distance from the base on the central feathers, extends rapidly towards the end of the tail on the outer ones, on the second and third lateral feathers coming within one and a quarter inches of the end; in other words, in looking towards the end of the tail, the yellow mark in my species is rounding in form, whereas, in *persicus*, the mark of this color is very deeply hollowed out.

Fam. *SCOLOPACIDÆ*.*EREUNETES OCCIDENTALIS*.

Adult in spring. Upper plumage varied with black, bright chestnut, ashy brown and white, each feather having a black centre, with bright chestnut margins and tipped with greyish white; the central upper tail coverts brownish black, the outer coverts white spotted with black near their ends, central tail feathers blackish brown, the other tail feathers light ash; primaries and secondaries blackish brown on their outer webs and tips, and dark ash on their inner webs; outer tertials dark ash, the inner black in the centre with bright chestnut margins; scapulars bright chestnut in the centre, broadly black near the end, and terminating with white; wing coverts ashy brown with greyish edgings; front sides of the crown to eye and under plumage white; a dusky line tinged with rufous extends from the bill to the eye; ear coverts rufous; front, sides of the head and throat marked with minute spots of ashy brown, breast and sides conspicuously marked with much larger spots of dark brown; under tail coverts white, a few with central dark brown spots; iris brown; bill and feet jet black.

Length $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; wing $3\frac{3}{4}$; tail $1\frac{3}{4}$; bills from $\frac{7}{8}$ to 1 1-16; tarsi $\frac{7}{8}$.

Habitat.—Pacific coast; California, Oregon.

This species differs from *pusillus* in the greater amount and brightness of the chestnut coloring of the upper plumage, but most conspicuously in the more decided character of the spots on the breast and sides, these being very much larger than those of *pusillus*; the bills also appear to average longer, and the tarsi and toes are jet black, which in the other are yellowish green.

The tertials are very long, reaching nearly to the end of the longest primary; the feet are semipalmated about the same as those of *pusillus*. Eleven specimens from the Pacific coast are now before me, four of my own and the 1864.]

others belonging to the Smithsonian Institution, kindly sent me by Prof. Baird for examination; three have their bills 1 1-16 in. in length³—all have the bright chestnut coloring above and are conspicuously spotted below, with the legs uniformly deep black. Those killed even towards the end of July retain the chestnut color above and the spots on the under plumage, whereas at that time *E. pusillus* has scarcely any rufous coloring above, and is below entirely destitute of spots, with a wash of a light tawny color on the upper part of the breast.

Mr. E. Coues suspected probably that more than one species existed in North America, for in his able Monograph of the Tringæ, published in the Proc. of the Phil. Acad. of Sci., 1861, p. 177, in a note under *E. pusillus*, he says, "I am by no means satisfied that but a single species of *Ereunetes* exists in N. A. The difference in size, in length and proportions of the tarsus even, and especially in the bill, cause it to seem almost impossible that all the specimens before me are specifically the same," &c.

He however made no positive determination of there being more than one species. See his remarks in the note referred to above.

I have had specimens of the so-called *E. mauri* sent me from Cuba by Dr. Gundlach for examination, and have found it to agree precisely with examples of *pusillus* from the Atlantic coast.

**Descriptions of six New Species of UNIONIDÆ from Lake Nyassa,
Central Africa, &c.**

BY ISAAC LEA.

The specimens herein described are of unusual interest. They are the first which I have seen from Central Africa, and I am greatly indebted for them to the liberality of John Kirk, M. D., of Edinburgh, who accompanied the Zambezi Expedition, under the British Government, as Medical Officer and Botanist. There are six in number, all of which I believe to be undescribed. The three *Spathæ* have the peculiar African type, and probably were furnished with syphons. In one of the species we have, for the first time, an *alate* type. The three *Uniones* differ from any type I have heretofore seen from Africa, and they take more of that of India in the subtriangular form—*Rajahensis*, (nobis), for instance—and in the subplicate character of some of our southern species—inclining to nodulous. It is greatly to be regretted that none of the soft parts were preserved, that we might compare their anatomy with those from America. Lake Nyassa is one of the three great central lakes of Africa, and has a southern drainage in the Zambezi River. It is, in extent, as Dr. Kirk informs me by letter, "exceeding two hundred miles north and south, and from fifteen to sixty miles wide, and is fifteen hundred feet above the sea. It lies between the parallels of 14° and 18° south latitude.

UNIO KIRKII.—Testâ plicatâ, triangulari, subinflatâ, ad latere planulatâ, inæquilaterali, anticè rotundatâ, posticè angulatâ; valvulis crassis, anticè crassioribus; natibus valdè prominentibus, solidis, ad apices undulatis; epidermide viridi, radiis capillaris indutâ; dentibus cardinalibus crassis, sulcatis; laterali-bus subrectis, curtis, crassis, in valvulo sinistro tripartitis; margaritâ argenteâ et iridescente.

Hab.—Lake Nyassa, Central Africa. John Kirk, M. D., of the Zambezi Expedition.

UNIO NYASSAENSIS.—Testâ plicatâ, triangulari, subinflatâ, ad latere planulatâ, inæquilaterali, anticè rotundatâ, posticè angulatâ; valvulis subcrassis, anticè crassioribus; natibus prominentibus, solidis, ad apices undulatis; epidermide luteo-corneâ, obsoletè radiatâ; dentibus cardinalibus parvisculis, sulcatis; laterali-bus subrectis, curtis, crassis, in utroque valvulo duplicibus; margaritâ salmonis colore tinctâ et iridescente.

[April,